

Pascoag Utility District Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting Minutes- November 28, 2011

A meeting of the Pascoag Utility District was held on Monday, November 28, 2011 at 6:00 PM in the District Office at 253 Pascoag Main Street., Pascoag, RI 02859.

Members Present: Albert Palmisciano, Ann Polacek, Michael Kogut, Wallace Lees and Adrien Trudeau

Members Absent:

Mr. Palmisciano called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM

Minutes

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Public Comment

3. Committee Comments

Bruce Rylah wanted the District to pay for a load of gravel to be dropped off at his property since the Water Department truck travels down his road twice a day. Mr. Palmisciano stated that he remembered it being discussed. Mr. Kirkwood stated that when staff went out to the driveway they felt the road was not in disrepair and didn't warrant more gravel. Mr. Kirkwood asked that when Mr. Rylah felt that the road was not in good shape to contact the District and he would send staff out to evaluate it.

4. Good and Welfare of the District

A. Docket No. 1725

Ms. Round reviewed the customer shut off information. The average customer balance is around \$125.83. Ms. Round stated that 43 residential standard customers were disconnected in the month of

October. Pascoag Utility District sent out 798 disconnection notices. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Lees, seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous.

B. NYPA

Mr. Kirkwood reported that there is no anticipation of a reduction in firm hydro energy sales for the month of December. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Lees, seconded by Mr. Kogut.

C. NEPPA's New Director

Mr. Kirkwood stated that Larry Brownell is the new director of NEPPA. Mr. Pat Hyland is retiring and is currently training Mr. Brownell as his successor.

D. Declaration of Candidacy

Mr. Kirkwood stated that five people have put their name in to run for Board seats: Mr. Palmiciano, Ms. Polacek, Mr. Trudeau, Mr. Choiniere and Mr. Jenks. There will be two-three year term seats and one-one year seat.

E. Greenridge Project

Mr. Kirkwood talked about the 75 unit housing development. Mr. Kirkwood and Mr. Guertin went to a meeting about the project to discuss the water connections and electrical specifics.

F. COS Update

Mr. Kirkwood stated that today was the last day to turn in proposals for PUD's cost of service. Management and the finance subcommittee have four competitive bids to review.

G. RIPUC Pre-hearing

Mr. Bernstein stated that there are two scenarios that the RIPUC is

considering. The first would be a total rate decrease to the rate payers and the second would be a smaller rate decrease and PUD retains \$200,000 to offset the anticipated rate increase in 2013. The second scenario would allow PUD to stabilize the rates for the next few years.

H. NECA Conference

Mr. Kirkwood attended the NECA conference. Paul Roberti was a guest speaker.

I. NEPPA PUMP Conference

Mr. Kirkwood attended the Northeast Public Power Utilities Management Program. Some of the topics included strategic management and government relations which is timely because PUD is in the beginning stages of a Cost of Service.

J. Exxon Mobil Settlement Hearing

Mr. Bernstein stated that a hearing took place early this month for the purpose of reviewing the law firm's expenses. The judge found the documentation of the law firm's expenses to be inadequate. The law firm has to resubmit their claims for expenses. The benefit to PUD would be if some of the expenses aren't allowed that would increase the amount awarded to PUD and the other class action suit's settlement.

K. Renewals for the PPRF and RF

Mr. Kirkwood stated that the interest rate for the two restricted fund accounts has expired with Freedom Bank. A new rate of interest has been set at .8% interest.

L. Christmas Party

Ms. Downs stated that the District Christmas party would be held at Tavern on the Main on December 17th at 6:00.

5. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular BUC Meeting- October 24, 2011

Mr. Lees made a motion to approve as submitted, seconded by Mr. Kogut. The vote in favor was unanimous.

6. Unfinished Business

7. New Business

11-22 Action Item: Approval of Write-offs

Mr. Palmisciano stated that he wanted to thank the staff for working so hard on the write-offs during these troubled times. Ms. Round reviewed the levels of protected status customers.

Ms. Polacek made a motion to approve as submitted, seconded by Mr. Trudeau . The vote in favor was unanimous.

8. Financial Reports

A. Electric Department- not available

B. Water Department- not available

9. Adjournment

Mr. Lees made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM.

Wallace Lees, Secretary

Desarae Downs, Recording Secretary